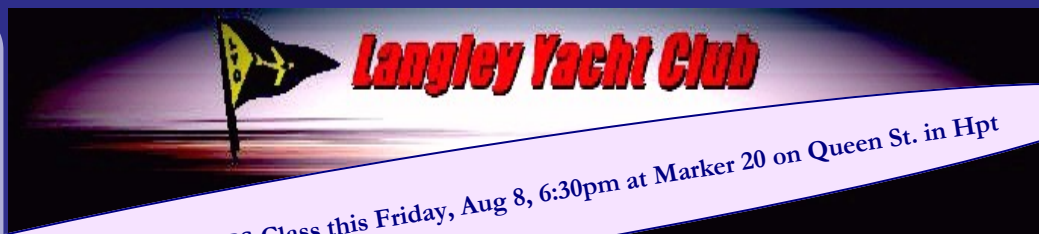


August
2008



REMINDER... Aug LYC meeting & GPS Class this Friday, Aug 8, 6:30pm at Marker 20 on Queen St. in Hpt

Editor
Annette Connors

Please send items for news-
letter to:
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Commodore's Corner Tom Connors

Hello all,

I thought you might like to hear a different voice this month so I'm turning my column over to vice-commodore Rick Rose. —See you on the water! TOM

Ahoy LYC! I hope you've been getting out on the water. The weather has been mostly good except for a few scorbers and a few really smoky days thanks to the fires in the Dismal Swamp. My family and I weren't able to do the Langley airshow this year—first miss in three years! Elise wasn't feeling well, and the forecast was for thunderstorms (which never arrived), so we bailed.

A buddy and I did manage a little overnight cruise to Waterside the following weekend.

Winds were South and Southwest, 15-20 knots, so getting up the river was quite a challenge (it's due South most of the way). We tied up at the floating pier (\$1.50 per foot), shored, changed, and walked up Granby Street for beers and live music at the Irish pub there. The

boat was pretty hot for sleeping that evening, plus the smoke was thick and noxious, but we managed to pass out eventually. Next morning, the return trip was like magic: the wind kept shifting, if you can believe it, IN OUR FAVOR.

We sailed from the dock at waterside to our slip at Joy's marina on the Hampton river without a single tack or gybe. It was amazing. [Here are a couple of photos from that cruise]



I participated in my first Wednesday night Hampton River race with a coworker as crew. We were doing just great, having lucked into an early start and made our way to the upwind mark pretty well (despite having to slip under three or more folks who called "Starboard!" on us), but then we tried going straight for the nun buoy that serves as the next mark and discovered we really, really should have made allowances for the current being created by the incoming tide. This buoy is right at the mouth of the James, mind you, in the vicinity of the

Upcoming Events

- ◆ **LYC Meeting & GPS Class**
8 August, 6:30pm, at
Marker 20 on Queen St.
Rsvp by Friday
tconnors1@verizon.net
- ◆ **Captain-for-a-day**
August 16
- ◆ **Tri-Service Cup**
13 September
- ◆ **York River Yacht Haven
Cruise**
27 September
- ◆ **Annapolis Boat Show**
9 - 13 October

HRBT, where there is quite a bottle-neck and, consequently, a strong current. Having missed the mark, we tried tacking our way back up to it and giving it another try. We must have tried it five times. We simply couldn't generate the necessary momentum against the tide. It was reminiscent of an experience Critter (John Ritter) and I had a few years ago during a race on the other side of the HRBT, when we were trying to make the signal tower mark on an ebb tide. Argh! I should have carried that lesson forward, but I suppose I needed this latest reminder. Check the tides around the HRBT!

What made things worse was that, on one of our tries, when we may or may not have had the mark mark

Our Condolences
On July 7, LYC lost a dear friend, Alene Armstrong. She leaves behind two children, Suzanne Armstrong Bingham and Patrick Armstrong, and her husband LYC member Armie Armstrong. She was a sweet woman and she will be greatly missed. Our thoughts are with you, Armie at this very difficult time.

Commodore's Corner
(cont'd from pg. 1)

made, who should come screaming out of nowhere but FINS UP! That's right, the LYC commodore, making up for a late start, cut the vice commodore off at the mark. FINS UP showed us how the mark was supposed to be rounded and then chased after the pack dwindling in the distance. We tried a few more times before deciding we were going to run out of daylight if we didn't call it quits. An ignominious beginning to our racing campaign, to be sure.

The Fourth of July raftup was a great experience--Elise's uncle came down from NYC and joined us for the trip. A few raindrops didn't spoil it at all; if anything, they made it a cozier experience to huddle under the tarp and watch the show. We headed for home around 2130, during a break in the weather. Although I was nervous running my ancient Atomic Four the whole way back to Joy's Marina on the Hampton River, it did just fine. The kids slept below for the entire return trip.

Along with all of LYC, we were saddened to hear of Alene Armstrong's passing just before this year's Vet Cup. Our hearts go out to Armie and the rest of Alene's family.

Regrettably, we missed the Vet Cup as well, having scheduled our vacation rental right around that time. Actually, I tried to go bahsies by crewing on Boomer's boat, but I must have carried my racing luck onboard with me since Boomer's engine refused to start on the morning of the race. I'm sure if I'd stayed home he would have done just fine. So that has been our season so far. Now that we're back from vacation, we hope to put more weekends into the boat.

Hope to see you out there!
—Rick Rose

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!

This year's Tri-Services Cup is Saturday, 13 September

We want you to race your boat even if you have never raced before!

Did you know that most of the boats in Cruising Class have never raced or have done very little racing?

Did you know LYC gets points toward the Tri-Services Cup just for you showing up to race?

We will work with anyone who is willing to bring their boat out to race and help provide information/instruction and even crew for the race!

Email anyone on the masthead to say you'd like to give it a try!



Cruise News

from Cruise Captain Brian

The July 4th Raft-up was a huge success! We had six boats participate and a great time was had by all!

Next up is the Captain-for-a-day children's event on 16 August. So far we have a 9 year old and a 14 year old signed up. **Remember...**this event is open to all ages as long as each young person is accompanied by an adult. The event is designed to teach boat safety and have fun! Please email wil-seaya@yahoo.com with questions.



It's hard to believe we are already planning for Fall cruising! The first one will be an overnight up to York River Yacht Haven on 27 September. There's a pool, a complimentary gas grill area, a camp store, and a very nice restaurant. Expect an email with all the details soon.

We are looking at a group trip to the Annapolis Boat Show on Saturday, 10 October. For anyone who has never been...this is the Olympics of in-water boat shows. You can board the boat of your dreams and explore. They even have a small area to teach your children to sail. Look for more details in the Sept. newsletter. Put these dates on your calendar and plan to come out for our upcoming events!

—Brian

Racing News & 'Clews' from Race Captain John Ritter

We are giving Race Captain John Ritter a much needed break from his column this month. So this gives us a chance to talk about what a phenomenal job he did as Chief Race Officer (CRO) for the 2008 Veteran's Cup Regatta! Compliments from the racers from other clubs included "what a well-run race..." and "we'll do this again next year!" Thanks, John, for once again making LYC look good!

Congratulations to the Veterans Cup winners! It was a LYC member, Karl Petersen on *Valkyrie* who won the coveted Chee-tah Cup as well as first place in A Class. Other LYC members also did well. Tom Connors on *Fins Up* placed 5th in Non-Spin and Paul Roth on *Trial Run* took 2nd in Cruising Class. Thanks so much to LYC members Tim & Andrea Lannan on *Andrea Jean* for serving as race committee boat! Race committee members Mary Beth Ritter, Jaqueline Muller, and Marty Goergen worked hard aboard the committee boat...we thank them profusely! —editor

LYC member Jacqueline Muller graciously agreed to share her experiences of the race from the perspective of the committee boat.:

*As I walked down the F dock at Old Point Comfort Marina watching the bustle of activity as people prepared for their various outings I looked for familiar faces because my limited knowledge of boats didn't include what a trawler [the committee boat] looked like. Finally I was greeted by John Ritter and welcomed by our gracious hosts, Tim & Andrea Lannan of **Andrea Jean**. Almost immediately we left for the race rendezvous and arrived there in good time with no incident. Initially I was unoccupied and sat out of the way as the boats began to arrive. It was an odd feeling as we sat there anchored being circled by a growing number of sailboats. I waved at familiar faces, I waved at unfamiliar faces and finally I took over the duty of checking the boats in as Marty Goergen moved to other duties.*

The course board was set up and it took a few boats passing us before someone pointed we had the colors wrong. John quickly fixed it with help from our host and it was decided to delay the start five minutes so everyone could be sure to get the correct course.

As start time neared I was given a refresher course on the race flags. Years of drill team practice came into play as my flag ripped through the air on cue. Probably overdone...but it was fun. The start was more excit-

ing than I expected it to be. I was informed around this time that my husband's boat had engine trouble and he wouldn't be participating. I was disappointed as seeing him race was the initial reason I joined the committee.

After the start we settled back and watched the race. I listened as John and Tim talked about the racers. It was a beautiful sight to see. Our hostess offered us beverages and conversation and time passed quickly and pleasantly.

John was watching the wind and as the end of the race neared realized we needed to adjust the finish line. As he attempted to pick up the ball it came off it's rope and floated away from us. We circled it a couple of times and Marty changed into his bathing suit to go in after it, but finally John trapped it against the boat and Marty hung over the edge to work it onto the boat. It was refastened to it's ropes and set down with no more incident and we stationed ourselves in place. As the finish drew nearer John was concerned that we were anchored on the opposite side of the ball than we were from the start. He was hesitant to ask our hosts to move, but Tim went and pulled up the anchor and we moved with no problem.

As the racers began to approach, I settled down to record the arrival times as they were called out to me. The sight of the approaching boats was impressive especially when the spinnaker class neared. We had a "race crasher" in the form of a catamaran captain who crossed our finish line just to do it. John was kind enough to give him his time.

When the last boat finished we headed back in. Our return was pleasant and our docking experience reassured me that my husband and I aren't the only ones who have to take more than one try to get it right. That duty was handled by the more experienced people. After we were safely back our hostess gave me a tour of their beautiful boat. I then bid my fellow committee members and our gracious hosts goodbye and headed home to my family. About an hour later I was incapacitated as my body reacted to the unfamiliar activity, but the experience and camaraderie of the day was well worth it.

—Jaqueline Muller

CLASSIFIED ADS!

Don't forget, your LYC Newsletter is available for your classified ads. Have something to sell? Something you need to find? A service to offer?

Email your ads to annetteconnors@verizon.net

HOME FOR SALE

2 Bonaire Drive, Hpt \$214,900

- ◆ Approx 1751 sq ft tri-level
- ◆ 3 bedrooms
- ◆ 2 full baths

- ◆ Oversize family room
- ◆ Bonus/craft room
- ◆ Laundry room
- ◆ washer/dryer
- ◆ 2 fireplaces

- ◆ Carpet over hardwood
- ◆ Workshop
- ◆ Storage shed
- ◆ Large backyard w/patio
- ◆ Small fountain in yard

- ◆ Decorative split rail fence
- ◆ Full color flyer with photos available by email: annetteconnors@verizon.net

327-1514